

AXLE ASSEMBLY FOR MOUNTING A WHEEL TO A VEHICLE

Abstract

An axle assembly connecting a wheel assembly to a vehicle frame. The axle assembly includes a tubular body having first and second ends connectable to the vehicle frame and open-ended slots disposed proximate at least one of the first and second ends of the tubular body. An expansion element is engageable with the tubular body to radially deform the tubular body at a mounting point to the vehicle frame. This configuration provides a rigid connection between the axle assembly and the vehicle frame in both the linear and radial directions.